

The Topeka State Journal.

10 CENTS A WEEK.

SHOT DOWN.

A Fleeing Tramp Brought to the Ground

By a Shot From Policeman Capron's Revolver.

ACCUSED OF NO CRIME.

Now He Will Lose His Leg or His Life.

Owing to Brutal Action of Officer Capron.

LINDSEY IS ANGRY.

Regards the Shooting as Un-called For.

Wounded Man Neglected in a Heartless Manner.

One of Governor Lewelling's policemen shot one of Governor Lewelling's tramps at the Rock Island junction, in North Topeka, about 11 o'clock today.

The too free use of a revolver in the hands of Policeman Capron resulted in the wounding of James Brogan, a young man who admits he is a tramp but denies that he is a criminal.

Officer Capron, whose precinct is in the western part of North Topeka, when approaching the Rock Island junction, about 11 o'clock this morning, saw a crowd of tramps sitting on a large pile of trash near the junction. The presence of these tramps at this place was nothing unusual, as most of the tramps who go through Topeka catch outgoing trains at this place, where the engine always runs slowly on account of the railroad crossing.

When Officer Capron got almost to the junction two of the tramps left the crowd and started down the track towards the city. The officer stopped and talked to the tramps that remained sitting on the ties a few minutes, and then started after the two who had left the crowd. He called to them to halt, but they started to run and turned down an alley when the officer was about 150 feet from them.

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When the wounded man fell his companion stopped and went to his assistance. They gave their names to the officer as Frank Brogan and James Harvey. Brogan is the name of the wounded man.

The patrol wagon was telephoned for and the injured man was taken to the police station and a messenger was sent for Acting City Physician Gen. L. Beers, who when he arrived did not have his surgical instruments with him and for that reason could not find the ball which seemed to be lodged near the hip bone.

Officer Capron, in reporting the affair to Chief of Police Lindsey, said he was notified that a gang of tramps was at the Rock Island junction and that they were offering for sale some goods which he thought to have been stolen. He said when he arrived at the junction two of the tramps started to run, but that he stopped to search the others, when one of them said to him, "Why don't you get those fellows? These are the ones with the stuff."

Capron said he then started after the two tramps and when they refused to stop he fired at them, but says he did not intend at first to hit them; he says the man who was shot put his hand to his hip pocket as though he intended to pull a gun. When the tramp did that he fired at him and hit him.

Chief Lindsey deplores the shooting and says he has given his men the most explicit orders never to use a revolver unless it is absolutely necessary, and never to pull a revolver from their pockets unless it was intended for instant use. He says Capron has always been considered a good officer, but he is too hasty, and this morning's work is a terrible disgrace.

Brogan the wounded man, who is about 25 years of age, says he arrived in Topeka yesterday morning from Atchison and that he intended going to Kansas City this morning. He slept in the Rock Island sand house last night. His parents live in Philad. (Pa.) His companion James Harvey, a boy only 18 years old is his cousin while parents reside at 1056 Market street, St. Louis.

Brogan as he lay on one of the hard pine bier beds in the police court room this afternoon was an object of pity.

His clothes, though coarse, were good, and he has an intelligent face, although he was suffering much from the wound, which had not been dressed at that time. In telling his story to the reporter he said: "I ran to get away from the officer just because I did not want to go on the rock-pile. I did not want to work for the city for nothing. I am used to work, but don't like to work unless I get something for it. I am not a criminal and it was not because of any guilt that I ran. There is a law against reckless shooting and that policeman had no business to shoot at me. He did not even see my face until after he shot me."

At 1:30 o'clock this afternoon, Acting City Physician Beers, who was asked to go once and dress the man's wound, replied that he would attend to the matter at 4 o'clock. He was informed that that was not satisfactory to Chief Lindsey, who

wanted the man removed to a hospital where he could have proper care. In response to this Dr. Beers explained that he wanted Dr. Alexander to go with him to dress the wound and that he was waiting until Dr. Alexander could do so.

The board of police commissioners at an informal meeting held in the governor's office at the state house discussed the shooting, and issued an order suspending Officer Capron pending an investigation.

Secretary E. T. Yount then telephoned the instructions of the board to Chief Lindsey, and Capron will be relieved from duty as soon as he reports at headquarters.

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SECRETARY E. T. YOUNT

TOPEKA, KANSAS, TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 27, 1894.

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR.

GOES OUT EASTER.

Today's Developments Indicate to Certainty,

That Gladstone Will Retire From the Ministry.

THERE IS A PANIC

Among Gladstone's Supporters in Parliament.

The Premier's Eyes Partly Covered With a Cataract.

London, Feb. 27.—The Evening News this afternoon says that the Earl of Rosebery has been offered the premiership and that he has declined it. The same paper says that the premiership was later offered to Earl Spencer, first lord of the admiralty, and that he has accepted it.

In conclusion the Evening News says that Mr. Gladstone's resignation goes into effect on Easter.

The Edinburgh News says he will retain his seat in the cabinet and will also continue to represent Midlothian in the house of commons.

Naturally this report, apparently based on something more than mere political rumor, has caused the greatest excitement in political circles and is causing a great and hurried exchange of telegrams between the great leaders and their immediate advisers.

Inquiries made hastily in official circles shortly after the Evening News, of Edinburgh, circulated its report, shows that there are many people in official circles who believe that the report is undoubtedly based on facts.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M. P., writing to the Sun today says in connection with the rumor, that Mr. Gladstone has resigned and apparently tending to confirm the report, continues: "For some time, something like a panic has existed among his supporters in the leagues. Yesterday evening the rumor was current that his resignation was to be expected during the course of the week. Competent authority gives his eyesight as the actual reason for his resignation, but the situation is further aggravated by the position of certain members of the cabinet with reference to the naval programme."

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